

A MOST DARING BURGLAR.

He Used Chloroform Scientifically on a Kansas City Family and Looted the House of Valuables.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 4.—W. J. Howell and his wife and baby girl, of 1700 East Tenth street, were chloroformed Saturday night by a burglar, who ransacked the house from top to bottom after they were sound asleep. The burglar used the chloroform as scientifically as a surgeon would. It requires a good knowledge of this deadly anesthetic to administer it safely and successfully. But this burglar put just enough of the drug to the faces of the sleeping family to anesthetize them till he had finished his work, and when they awakened the only bad effect each felt was a severe headache. This burglar was remarkably daring and cool-headed. His first entrance to the house by means of a jimmy and skeleton keys, awakened the Howell baby and she screamed that a man was trying to catch her. It was two o'clock in the morning. The screams awakened Mrs. Howell, who arose and took the child to bed with her. The burglar was in the house then and he waited and listened till the family was asleep again and then he used his chloroform. After that he had things his own way. He lighted the gas, rummaged leisurely around, tried on several suits of Mr. Howell's clothing till he found one that suited and wore that away, and carried with him considerable money, jewelry and bric-a-brac. Later he went to the home of M. T. Wright, assistant cashier of the Western Union Telegraph company, which was a block away, at 920 Vine street, and went in. It was not necessary for him to use chloroform here. The family was away. He found an overcoat of Mr. Wright's that fitted well over the suit of clothing from Mr. Howell's and he took it. He gathered up about \$100 worth of silverware at Mr. Wright's and carried it away.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

Prof. Sumner, of Edinburgh university, receives the highest salary of any college professor, the amount being \$20,000.

Prof. William Libbey, of Princeton university, proposes to conduct a scientific expedition to the Hawaiian islands during the coming summer.

Woman's education has gained a point in Germany. The first gymnasium or school of the grade preparatory to the university for girls will be opened at Breslau in April.

Dr. Noah Fields Drake, of Stanford university, is the latest American to be asked to educate the Chinese. He has accepted the offer of major professor of mining engineering in Tien-Tsin university. Americans are now near the head of almost every important branch of education in China.

A Russian physician examined a number of students with regard to their health as affected by smoking. Of the smokers 16.09 per cent. were found to have some affection of the respiratory tract, while only 10.69 of the non-smokers were thus affected. In respect to diseases of the alimentary tract the figures were respectively 11.88 and 9.92 per cent., and of both tracts combined 8.77 and 3.22 per cent.

FROM THE PATENT OFFICE.

By a new device blind shutters can be automatically raised and lowered as the sun's rays shine or disappear, a thermostat being attached to the blind to close an electrical circuit and shut the blinds as the sun's rays become hot. Envelopes can be quickly moistened by sealing and stamping by a handy new device, consisting of a water cup from which a wick rises to feed water to an absorbent roller, which turns and dampens the envelope as it is drawn between the roller and a fixed pad.

Electricity is used to destroy weeds in a new device which can be used on an ordinary mowing machine, one wire of the dynamo being attached to the cutting bar and the other grounded through one of the wheels, so that if the weeds are cut when damp a current of electricity enters each root and burns it as the top is cut.

Imprisoned miners can be supplied with food and air by a newly patented conduit system, consisting of a series of pipes to be laid through the mine shafts, with branch pipes running around each section to be used, if the main pipe should be crushed by a cave-in, flexible conveyors being run through the pipes to carry the food.

Bicycle tires can be automatically inflated when punctured by a new pump, consisting of a yoke, which encircles the tire and extends around the rim to support the piston-rod mounted in the cylinder attached to the rim. The yoke sinks in with each revolution as soon as the tire becomes soft, and gives a stroke on the piston, which is forced back again by a spring inside the pump.

Ships' bottoms can be cleaned without the necessity of docking by a newly patented apparatus, which is mounted on a small boat or scow and attached to the side of the ship to be cleaned, and has an adjustable ladder, at the outer end of which is mounted a revolving brush or scraper which is capable of reaching all parts of the bottom of the vessel.

Will Be Ready on Time.

OMAHA, Neb., April 4.—The announcement is made upon authority of the chief architects of the Transmississippi exposition that all construction work will be finished in ample time for the installation of exhibits and the perfection of concessions by the opening day—June 1.

Escapes from Kansas Reformatory. HUTCHINSON, Kan., April 4.—W. R. Greggby, a state reformatory convict, sent up from Newton for attempted murder, escaped yesterday. It is supposed that he climbed a rope suspended from the top of the building

CHARLES H. DUELL.

New Commissioner of Patents is a Man of Known Probity.

The United States patent office has been again favored with a commissioner of known ability and probity. There is hardly a public man in the official life of Washington who is charged with more responsibility than the commissioner, one whom rests the conservation of great interests. It is requisite that the incumbent of this office shall have a competent knowledge of practice before the patent office and be a lawyer as well. Mr. Charles H. Duell, of Syracuse, N. Y., who has been appointed by the president, admirably fulfills both of these qualifications. He has long ranked high as a practitioner in patent cases before the courts, says the Scien-



CHARLES H. DUELL.

(United States Commissioner of Patents.) tific American, and he probably has few equals in this specialty. His practice has been extensive and has covered a great number of cases. He has attained a large degree of success, having had many cases where the interests involved were of large import. These he has handled with skill and prudence.

The appointment will probably mean a considerable financial sacrifice, as it will interrupt a lucrative practice, and the position of honor to which he has been appointed is inadequately paid. Mr. Duell's appointment will be received with general public favor, and it is considered one of the most fortunate of President McKinley's nominations. The new commissioner was a candidate at the beginning of President McKinley's administration, but the latter wished to appoint his old personal friend, Congressman Butterworth. The death of Mr. Butterworth gave the president the opportunity of recognizing Mr. Duell's candidacy by nominating him.

Mr. Duell was born at Cortland, N. Y., in 1850; his father, R. Holland Duell, was four times sent to congress, and in 1875 he was appointed commissioner of patents, which office he held for two years. Mr. C. H. Duell received a preliminary education in the Cortland Normal school; he then entered Hamilton college, from which he graduated in 1871. He was an honor man in his class and took several prizes. He has held some political offices honorably and acceptably to his constituents.

VICTIM OF HIS GREED.

Dog's Head Caught in Pitcher from Which He Was Stealing Milk.

Most missionaries belonging to the great English missionary societies, says the Strand, are now provided with cameras, and they are thus enabled to send to headquarters many delightfully quaint little photographs, of which the one here reproduced is a delightful example. It was taken by the late Rev. J. P. Nicklison, of the Church Missionary society, and was kindly forwarded

TOO GREEDY BY FAR.
(Dog's Love for Milk Leads to Comical Results.)

to us by his brother, Rev. Ernest Nicklison, of Margate. The missionary's dog one day came upon a big enameled iron jug full of milk, and into this it incautiously thrust its head with great force. It drank steadily for some time, and then, wishing to breathe more freely and look around generally, it tried to withdraw, but found it impossible. The noise the dog made attracted the notice of Mr. J. P. Nicklison, who photographed the comical incident before releasing the dog.

Largest Stone Ever Quarried.

It is claimed that the largest single stone ever quarried is the Wisconsin monolith, which is 115 feet long, ten feet square at the base and four feet square at the top. This stone was taken from the red sandstone quarries of E. Prentice, at Houghton Point, Wis., and it was originally proposed to send it to the Chicago exposition as a Wisconsin exhibit. But engineering and financial reasons prevented, and it has been left at the quarry until the present time. A movement is now on foot to ship it by water to Milwaukee and set it up as a memorial of the fiftieth anniversary of the admission of Wisconsin as a state. Plans and estimates have been made, and it is estimated that \$40,000 to \$50,000 will do the work. The claim is made that the stone is ten feet longer than any recorded single stone quarried in the world.

Y. M. C. A.'s Wealth.

The Young Men's Christian association has more than 250,000 members in America and its total net property is valued at over \$16,000,000.

SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

The present mean diameter of Jupiter is 86,500 miles, while its mass exceeds that of the earth in the ratio of three hundred and sixteen to one.

The teeth supplied by most dentists are made of porcelain, which is far more durable than anything else that could be used for the purpose.

It is reported from Paris that at Penzol, in the department of Haut Vienne, a meteoric stone was recently seen to fall and set fire to farm buildings.

The most wonderful astronomical photograph in the world is that which has recently been prepared by London, Berlin and Paris astronomers. It shows at least 68,000,000 stars.

The smallest flower known to the botanist is said to be that of the yeast plant. It is microscopic in size, and is said to be only one-hundredth of a millimeter in diameter.

A chewing apparatus for people who have lost their teeth and do not care to wear false ones has just been invented by a Frenchman. The food to be chewed is placed between the blades, which are opened and closed three or four times, and the food is thus reduced to a state of pulp.

Scientists have demonstrated that the purest air in the cities is found about 25 feet above the street surface. Heretofore it has been thought that the highest floors in tenement houses had the best air. The investigations above referred to show that the healthiest apartments are those of the third floor.

CARING FOR THE BABY.

Fresh air, good food and pure water are the three prime essentials in the nursery.

An infant's thirst is not quenched by milk. It needs clean water to drink with regularity.

Always hold a baby in your arms when feeding it in about the same position as if nursing it.

Rubber tubes, complicated nipples and nursing bottles are dangerous and should never be used.

Regular habits, proper food and long hours of sleep are necessary conditions to a healthy infant.

Have a rule for feeding the baby and do not vary from it. Without regularity the mother becomes a slave.

Light and loose clothing and frequent bathing or cool sponging are necessities for the infant in hot weather.

Plain boiled water given between feedings will often aid the digestion and satisfy the child when restless.

Never put a bottle nipple into your mouth and then into the baby's mouth. This will often prove dangerous.

Feeding at night after the third month is both inconvenient and unnecessary. Sleep at night is better than food.

WHAT BECOMES OF METAL.

Most of the world's zinc product is used in tin plates. Tin scrap is not available, and though many efforts have been made to utilize tin scrap, no considerable amount of metal has been obtained this way.

Zinc is largely used in galvanizing steel or iron, in manufacturing brass, as a sheet zinc, and an oxide of zinc used in paint. The only zinc available for the new use is that used in making brass. Next to scrap iron and steel, scrap brass is found on the market.

Next to iron and steel, copper is most used in metallic form, only a small proportion being used in the salts of copper and blue vitriol. The great uses of copper are in the manufacturing of brass, of which it forms two-thirds, in electrical conductors, sheet roofing cooking utensils and pipes.

The greater portion of the lead mined is converted into white lead, red lead and orange materials which are used as pigments for paints. Much lead is manufactured into sheets, some into bullets and other projectiles, and the only lead which comes back into the market in the form of scrap is that used for lead pipes.

THE WHIRLING WHEEL.

When going through a rut, washout or gully, be careful to keep your feet upon the pedals, and thereby avoid what might be a serious accident.

Sporting Life wisely remarks that the bones and muscles of the human body, it is said, are capable of 12 different movements—a fact which the beginner fully realizes the day after a lesson.

Informal announcement has been received that the Swiss, Belgian and Italian governments have decided to admit touring L. A. W. members to cross their frontiers without requiring the payment of duty or the deposit of money at the customs stations.

August Lehr, the short distance champion of Germany, and Karl Kaser, the champion of Switzerland, have arrived in this country to ride in races against American professionals. In all lines of sports America is a gold mine, and Europeans are not long in making the discovery.

THE BASEBALL WORLD.

The Scranton club lost \$18,000 in two seasons. Expensive sport, that!

The well-known ex-umpire, Michael J. Mahoney, is out of the game for good, and is in the clothing business in Lowell.

Dan Brotherton was the only member of the Eastern league who batted over .400 last season, his average being .412. He had the fine fielding percentage of .985.

John K. Tener, who was formerly one of the Chicago pitchers and accompanied the around-the-world party in '88-'89, is cashier of the First national bank at Charleston, Pa.

Bob Clark, Hardy Henderson, Tim Keefe, John Irwin, Pete Browning, Charley Gould, Miah Murray, Fred Doe and Charles Snyder are among the applicants for a position on Nick Young's force of umpires.

THE HAL-FATED MAINE.

Description of the Battleship Destroyed in Havana Harbor.

Regarded by Experts as One of the Most Effective Warships in the Navy—Her Cost Estimated at \$2,500,000.

The Maine was regarded as one of the most effective vessels in the American navy. In speaking of her just after she was put in commission a naval officer said that she "is not a cruiser, but a fighting ship, a floating fort. She is meant strictly for business."

The keel of the Maine was laid in the Brooklyn navy yard, in October, 1888. The dimensions of the hull were: Length over all, 324 feet 4 1/2 inches; at water line, 310 feet; breadth of beam, 57 feet; mean draught, 21 1/2 feet; displacement, 6,648 tons. A sail area was allowed of 7,135 square feet, to be used barque-rig.

Work progressed slowly, for a plant had to be built up. The vessel, without armor and fittings, was launched November 19, 1890, in the presence of a great crowd and with much ceremony, her sponsor being Miss Alice Tracy Wilmerding, granddaughter of Secretary Tracy, then at the head of the navy department. Her official trial took place in October, 1894.

The Maine was a twin-screw, armored turret vessel of the belted cruiser type, that is, having an armor belt to protect the vitals of the ship, even though the other parts of the construction should be riddled with shot.

The Maine had for protection against an opponent's projectiles an armor belt 12 inches thick, tapering to seven inches below the water line. The ends were unprotected by side armor, but at both ends there were transverse armor bulkheads of sufficient thickness to deflect any projectiles that might reach so far.

A curving steel deck protected the engines and boilers. The barbette armor was 12 inches in thickness and the turret armor plates were eight inches thick.

As a fighter the Maine was a formidable ship. Her main battery consisted of four 10-inch breech-loading rifles in the two turrets and six 6-inch breech-loading rifles. The secondary battery consisted of four 57-millimeter and four 47-millimeter rapid-fire guns, four 47-millimeter revolving cannon and four Gatlings. There were also three torpedo tubes below water and four on the berth deck. Two torpedo boats 61 feet long, drawing 2 1/2 feet, of 14 2-3 tons displacement, were part of the equipment.

The turrets containing the 10-inch guns were arranged en echelon, so that all four could be trained directly ahead or astern, with a range of 240 degrees. This arrangement of guns was most effectual in the case of the Japanese fleet at the battle of the Yalu river. The 6-inch rifles were planned to be worked by hand, and were protected by steel shields two inches thick.

The weight of a broadside of the Maine would have been 2,700 pounds, exclusive of the secondary battery.

The Maine had eight steel horizontal boilers, vertical inverted cylinder direct acting triple expansion twin screw engines of 9,000 indicated horse power. She carried 822 tons of coal, with which she could steam 2,770 knots at 14.8 knots an hour, or 7,000 knots at 10 knots an hour. She has a double bottom and numerous water-tight compartments.

The full complement of men carried by the Maine when she was put in commission was 506, besides the officers and 40 marines.

The Maine, though of a type of construction vastly improved upon, was one of the best vessels of America's new navy. She cost, all told, \$2,500,000.

Sugar Cane Is Nutritious.

It has been remarked that the negroes in sugar-cane regions depend to a considerable extent upon the juice of the cane for nourishment. By the use of Mosso's ergograph, Dr. Harley found that sugar promoted muscular power wonderfully. On a fasting day it increased his ability to work 61 to 70 per cent. Taking ordinary meals, he found that eight and three-fourths ounces per day increased his work capacity 22 to 36 per cent. In these days, when athletes are so much inclined to use special stimulants for immediate preparation for their contests, it might be interesting to try sugar as a substitute for the possibly injurious preparations sometimes in vogue.

Was a Union Officer.

Col. Emil Frey, formerly president of the Swiss republic, and for five years Swiss minister to Washington, is at present director in chief of the international telephone system of Europe. He fought in the union army during the civil war and was for a time a prisoner in Libby prison.

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NEWS NOTES.

The sheriff levied on the waterworks plant at Fort Scott, Kan., to collect \$4,000 personal tax, and threatens to tear up the mains unless the money is produced forthwith.

Nelson Morris & Co., of Chicago, opened their packing plant at St. Joseph, Mo., slaughtering 400 cattle and 2,000 hogs. This makes five packing plants in operation at that point.

Ex-Gov. Glick, in an interview, says he is for fusion in Kansas this year, even if the democrats do not get a thing out of it. He says he is particularly interested in Gov. Leedy and Attorney General Hoyle.

Denver's Great Handball Team.

DENVER, Col., April 4.—John J. Fitzgerald and George O. Dostal, composing Denver's crack handball team, defeated the world's champions, Casey and Dunne, of Brooklyn, N. Y., here in a most interesting contest. The score was 21 to 20. At every point of the game the local players outplayed the famous Brooklyn team. Champion Casey remarked after the game that there was not a team in the country that could defeat the Denver men.

Burglars entered the hardware store of T. J. Whitfield, Warrensburg, Mo., and carried away goods valued at \$190.

W. W. Rose, of Kansas City, Kan., has been appointed architect of Kansas vice T. H. Lescher, removed.

Arkansians in a Desperate Duel.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 4.—A desperate revolver duel occurred at Haynes, Ark., between Dr. W. W. Scott, a prominent physician of that town, and John J. Hughes, a leading merchant. Scott entered Hughes' store and opened fire upon him. The latter drew his weapon and both combatants emptied their revolvers at each other at close range. When the shooting ceased both men were lying on the floor. They are still alive, but their recovery is doubtful.

Great Britain Gets a Slice of China.

PEKING, April 4.—Great Britain has demanded a lease of Wei-Hai-Wei on the Shan Tung peninsula after the Japanese evacuation, as a compensation for the disturbance of the balance of power in the gulf of Pe-Chi-Li. In diplomatic circles small doubt is entertained that China will concede the demand, which is believed to be favorably regarded by Japan.

Grand Strawberry Carnival.

SARASOTA, Mo., April 5.—This city is to enjoy a strawberry carnival from May 19 to 21 inclusive. It will be the first of the kind ever held in this country. Nearly all the fruit growers in the country will aid in making it a grand affair. All the spring fruits known in this country will be on display and the strawberry will be the queen of the occasion.

GOLD FROM AUSTRALIA.

English Shipment, Amounting to \$18,500,000, to Pay for the Balance of Trade in Our Favor.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 4.—The steamship Alameda, from Sydney, which is due here Wednesday, carries \$2,000,000 in English sovereigns in her strong box. This is the eighth shipment of gold received from the same source since last fall, bringing the total amount received up to the enormous sum of \$18,500,000. This money is in payment of the balance of trade in favor of the United States for wheat, flour, lumber, canned goods, raisins and other staples shipped abroad, in excess of our imports of merchandise.

Severe Snowstorm in Colorado.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 4.—Reports received at railroad headquarters here show that a severe snowstorm is raging in Colorado and is coming this way. About two inches of snow have fallen already. A high wind is blowing and snowflakes have been placed on all the engines to fight the drifts.

Will Favor Policy Holders.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 5.—The Kansas City court of appeals decided yesterday that when words or phrases of doubtful meaning were put in insurance policies the court would not interpret the meaning so as to favor the insurance companies, but the construction as to the meaning of the word or phrase would be put upon it that would be most favorable to the policy holder.

A Large Egg.

Seth Leonard, of Shutesbury, Mass., reports a specimen of hen fruit 9 1/4 inches the larger way and 6 1/4 the smaller, that he found recently in his hen-house.

What a Ton of Gold Is Worth.

A ton of pure gold is worth \$907,789.21.

Strawn Left a Small Fortune.

WACO, Tex., April 4.—William C. Brann, who died from the effects of the wounds received in the street duel with T. E. Davis, left an estate valued at \$50,000. William Marion Reidy, of St. Louis, editor of the St. Louis Mirror, will take charge of the executor.

A QUESTION.

Wish some breeze, by night or day, Jest would whisper ter her, In a sweet, heart-breakin' way, How I weary fer her.

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BEST OF A WEEK'S VERSE.

If I Had Known.

If I had known your eyes would turn away From smiling into mine, that I—alone— Should stand beside your silent form to-day, I would have been more tender, had I known.

I could not see the silent waters creep Close to your feet, or I—you knew it, dear?— Would not have said those words that made you weep, Or left unsaid the words you longed to hear.

So many years I saw you in your place, I never dreamed that you could steal away— That I should lose the rare and gentle grace Of your sweet presence in my life, some day.